

Approved for Release
July 2000

28 October 1970

SUBJECT: COS, Santiago, Contacts with Chilean Military

[REDACTED]
30 September 1970

During COS discussions at Headquarters, following three officers deemed key figures in military planning:

1. [REDACTED]
2. General VALENZUELA
3. [REDACTED]

Requests Station make it clear to these officers individually that USG views military solution only answer; that they to be assured USG will provide support and pledges they demand.

[REDACTED]
9 October 1970

COS met [REDACTED] October in frank interchange of ideas on military solution to prevent Allende from succeeding to the presidency.

[REDACTED] said chances of military intervention directed by army high command are nil. [REDACTED] working with General VALENZUELA (Army), [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. None have any illusions as to chances for success. [REDACTED] unable to name one regimental commander in Santiago area who could be counted upon to heed summons to action. [REDACTED] and VALENZUELA met with VIAUX [REDACTED] October. They both convinced VIAUX is General without army.

COS reiterated USG position as one of unreservedly supporting military coup. Short of armed intervention, USG will do anything needed to get armed forces moving. [REDACTED] promised to be in touch if help needed and said he would pass on COS message to those closest to him.

[REDACTED]
13 October 1970

[REDACTED] reported that [REDACTED] had been thoroughly confused over conversation [REDACTED] October with Embassy [REDACTED] whom he mistook to be Chief, [REDACTED] COS will meet [REDACTED] October to brief him on USG position and stress that USG unreservedly in favor of military intervention which will receive our all-out support.

[REDACTED]
15 October 1970

COS met [REDACTED] October. COS stressed that "should any steps the military should take result in civil disorder, we would also be prepared promptly to deliver support and material that might be immediately required." Emphasized words "promptly" and "immediately" indicated lack of red tape. Asked [REDACTED] to advise [REDACTED] of above message.

[REDACTED]
Continuation of [REDACTED]. COS asked [REDACTED] to contact [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Suggested [REDACTED] be clued in as well.

COS touched on Viaux problem but did not admit to contact with Viaux.

[REDACTED]
17 October 1970

DCOS discussed with [REDACTED] October his attitude toward current activities of General VIAUX. [REDACTED] said his view of situation largely same as that conveyed to COS on 8 October meeting [REDACTED]. DCOS observed that [REDACTED] did not appear to be a man ready to take part in a coup attempt.
[REDACTED]